Village tourism in A.P.

1479. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have decided to develop atleast one village from each State as a tourist destination with a view to promote village tourism;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme;

(c) the criteria for the identification of the villages; and

(d) the villages identified from Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OFTOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN) (a) The Department of Tourism, Government of India has proposed to develop village'tourism in the Tenth Plan and has requested the State Govemments/UT Administrations to furnish one proposal for integrated development of village tourism.

(b) Under this scheme a maximum amount of Rs. 50 lakhs is proposed for tourism development in the villages including the following activities.

(i) Improvement of the surrounding of the village. This would include landscaping development of parks, fencing, compound wall etc.

(ii) Improvements to roads within the Panchayat limits. This shall not include any main road which connects the village.

(iii) Illumination in the village.

(iv) Providing for improvement in solid waste management and sewerage management (of capital costs).

(v) Construction of wayside amenities.

(vi) Refurbishment of the monuments.

(vii) Signages.

(viii) Tourist accommodation.

(c) The villages will be identified on the basis of the merit and after joint inspection by officers of Department of Tourism and the State/UT Government.

(d) The State of Andhra Pradesh has been requested to submit the proposal for development of village tourism.